

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

THE DIXIE RANGEE

UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE ❖ SOUTHERN REGION

Volume 3

Atlanta, Georgia - October, 1937

Number 9

CONSERVATION - PRESENT AND FUTURE

Editor's Note: We thought this article well worth quoting in these pages. It is the editorial in the current issue of The Southern Conservationist and was written by Governor Gordon Browning of Tennessee.

The conservation idea is simple intelligence. It is merely economy. Nature has endowed us with certain values, and our responsibility is to conserve them. We have been a long time coming to understand this responsibility. It is said that conservation is popular today, more popular than at any other period of our history. It is not popularity, however, so much as it is realization.

We have come to the comprehension that we must plan against the destruction of the natural resources which are necessary to a satisfactory existence. We must save the soil, which is fundamental to life; we must conserve the forests; we must nurture our wildlife.

A wise conservation program must strike a balance between needs of today and needs of tomorrow. This does not mean that we are to be miserly and not use our existing resources. It means that we shall campaign against needless waste, that we shall have concern for future generations. It means that every effort must be made to obtain the maximum use for the people now living or yet to live from all our natural resources.

Tennessee must have a thorough conservation program. Nature has bountifully supplied us with extensive forests, beautiful rivers, lakes and streams, rich mineral resources, land ideally suited for game of all kinds, fertile fields and a pleasant, healthful climate with adequate rainfall. These, and many more blessings have been lavishly bestowed upon us, and we who are privileged to use and enjoy these blessings should cherish and care for them.

Run
fll
JH3
C.H.
L.K.H.
E.C.
E.C.
K.C.
W.H.
S.M.
C.H.
W.H.
4911.3

Conservation must be given a more prominent part in our education system and in the thoughts of our people. The disastrous effects of floods and drouth emphasize the need of a planned and thoughtful conservation in order that our resources may serve in a beneficial manner, and in order to avert tragedies caused by neglect and indifference.

- - - -

SALES IN DELTA HARDWOODS

Five bids for the first sale on the Delta Unit in Mississippi were opened on September 21 in the Regional Office. The sale was for 5,184,000 board feet of Delta hardwoods to be cut from an area of 600 acres. The cut is on a selection basis, removing 58% of the total merchantable stand. Red gum comprises more than 60% of the stand, and only 54.8% of this species will be cut. The residual stand is 6,000 board feet per acre.

The lowest of the five bids was \$57,749.50 and the highest \$69,969.94, or an average price of about \$13.50 per thousand board feet, the highest price ever received in the Region for any considerable volume of sawtimber. It is estimated that from 15 to 18 months will be required to complete the sale, or $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 logging seasons. This sale precedes the management plan, but the volume to be cut is only 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ % of the total stand and represents cutting at a rate of approximately 2.8% per annum. The ultimate regulation will probably be within $\frac{1}{4}$ % of this figure.

Provided stumpage prices hold at their present level, this unit should have an average gross income from timber of approximately \$46,500.00 per annum or \$3.50 per acre per annum. I rather doubt if it will have any very close competitors in the matter of revenue, and considering that it has been unnecessary to spend any appreciable sum on roads, protection devices or other common forest investments, it appears that this unit will be the most remunerative in the Region.

-- A. C. SHAW, Assistant Regional Forester

- - - -

FIRE CONTROL IS DISCUSSED BY RESEARCH SPECIALISTS

A conference of foresters assigned to research projects in various phases of fire control work at the Appalachian and Southern Experiment Stations met with administrative fire control officers of the Region in Atlanta on September 16 and 17.

An effort was made to coordinate the needs of fire control planning with the research program. The Stations were asked to shift priorities of their projects to permit their obtaining information needed in fire control planning first.

Both Experiment Stations have well-planned programs of fire research. Some valuable results have already been obtained concerning fire behavior.

A splendid piece of work has been done by Charles A. Abell of the Appalachian Station in analyzing 1,500 fire reports covering fires over a period of seven years to determine rate of spread and resistance to control by fuel types. His "preliminary report on rate of spread and resistance to control data for Region 7, fuel types and their application to determine strength and speed of attack needed", dated September 7, contains the findings of his analysis.

The Southern Station is using a different approach to study fire behavior. Studies are being made in the longleaf pine type by actually setting fire under various burning conditions. Present data is not sufficient for releasing preliminary report.

A strong plea was made by Eberly of State and Private Forestry for research to develop a practical method of figuring damages caused by forest fires. Both Stations are already working on data on which to base practical damage appraisals.

Experiment Station officials who attended the conference were Dr. Ralph M. Nelson, Acting Director; George M. Jemison and Charles A. Abell from the Appalachian; James G. Osborne, in charge of Fire Control Research, C. Allen Bickford and Carl F. Olsen from the Southern. Regional Office officials were C. F. Evans, Assistant Regional Forester H. J. Eberly, and J.W.K. Holliday. From the Division of Operation were William R. Paddock, in charge of Fire Control, and Frank W. Bennett.

- - - - -

SEEN AREA MAPPING IN FIRE CONTROL

Seen area mapping, an important step in fire control planning which has received much emphasis recently, has migrated from the mountain forests in the Southern Appalachians to the Coastal plains.

Down in Mississippi, Fire Assistant V. B. MacNaughton and W. M. Beckert, in charge of photo-transit mapping, have partially developed a technique for mapping seen area in the rougher section of the upper coastal plains. It seems doubtful if such mapping will be necessary in the units lying within the flat portion of the southern coastal plains.

Some of the problems encountered in visible area mapping in Mississippi are mentioned here for the information of those who expect to start this work soon.

Administrative maps, although not as accurate as good contour maps, are sufficiently accurate for seen area mapping.

The accuracy of the seen area maps depends upon the experience of the lookout and his judgment in determining what he can actually see, and the mapper's ability to make full use of both in preparing his map.

Both direct and indirect areas were mapped. Indirect areas were considered to be those areas where, although the ground could not actually be seen, it was reasonable to expect that the lookout could detect and locate a smoke without a cross bearing. The use of this is still questionable.

There is a tendency to "over map" direct and indirect areas in the coastal plains. The area seen appears to be greater than the map indicates.

In computing the relative value of a given location, indirectly visible area was given two thirds the value of direct.

The fire finders in lookout towers were used in place of a plane table and alidade.

Visible areas were mapped within an eight mile radius. The primary effective radius (distance which can be seen 70% of the time) was found to be four miles. Within this circle visible area was given full value in rating tower locations, while the visible area within the four to eight mile circle was weighted by .31 due to haze.

The problem of getting mappers up in the air 60 to 80 feet on "points" where there is no tower has not yet been solved. Information received from Region 9 concerning a temporary steel tower which has been used there gives us hope. The Regional Office has requested specifications for this type of tower which is inexpensive yet structurally safe, and which can be erected in a half-day.

As satisfactory technique for mapping seen area in the more rugged part of the coastal plains is more completely developed, the information will be made available to all forests concerned.

-- F. W. Bennett, Regional Office

- - - -

RAILROADS APPROVE UNIFORM ESTIMATED WEIGHT SCALE ON LOGS

(From an article in Sept. 1 issue of Southern Lumberman)

C. A. New, secretary-manager of the Southern Hardwood Traffic Association, announces that rail carriers have approved uniform estimated weights on logs to apply in the absence of actual scale weight on shipments moving between points in the South as follows:

<u>Kinds of logs</u>	<u>Weight per 1,000 feet</u>
Ash	12,000 lbs.
Beech	11,500 "
Cedar	12,000 "
Chestnut	11,000 "
Cottonwood	10,000 "
Cypress	11,000 "
Dogwood	12,000 "
Elm	13,000 "
Gum	12,000 "

Kinds of logsWeight per 1,000 feet

Hemlock	10,000 lbs.
Hickory	14,000 "
Maple	10,000 "
Magnolia	12,000 "
Oak	12,000 "
Pine	12,000 "
Poplar	9,000 "
Sycamore	10,000 "
Walnut	12,000 "

The carriers have applied to the Mississippi Railroad Commission for authority to publish the estimated weights for application between points within Mississippi and they will no doubt apply to other state commissions for similar authority.

Most of the logs received by members of the association, Mr. New points out, are track scaled; but estimated weights are applied in some instances and should, therefore, be as nearly correct as possible. He has requested members of the association to check up on these weights and advise which, if any, of them are out of line.

- - - -

THE CCC STACKS UP SOME RECORDS

W. A. Shearer, Chief of Project, T.V.A., Chattanooga, reports that Joe W. Burleson, Superintendent of Camp TVA-11, Moulton, Alabama, has not made an error in submitting his Forms 7 to the Chattanooga office during the last 25 months. Burleson was employed as Jr. Civil Engineer August 16, 1935 and assigned as Acting Project Superintendent of Camp TVA-11 and required to submit his first Form 7 at the end of August 1935. Considering all the changes that have taken place in the Form ECW-7X and CCC-7, this is a record to shoot at and it is doubtful that Superintendent Burleson's record has been topped anywhere.

Mr. Shearer also reports that District Superintendent Woolsey Finnell, Jr., Third District, has three camps that have gone 13 months without a lost time accident. These are Camp TVA-6, Athens, Alabama; Camp TVA-33, Fayetteville, Tennessee; and Camp TVA-36, Paris, Tennessee. Camp TVA-11, Moulton, Alabama and TVA-13, Wilson Dam, Alabama have gone 12 months without a lost time accident. It is considered that Mr. Finnell has established a record with five camps out of the nine which comprise his district going 12 months or longer without a lost time accident.

- - - -

Supervisor Albert of the Florida Forest reports that cone estimates are at hand with a quota of 3,000 bushels of slash pine and 3,000 bushels of longleaf pine to be gathered by CCC Camp F-1. An additional 4,000 bushels of slash pine will be gathered by three Camps in Georgia under the supervision of the State Forester, and 100 bushels of longleaf will be gathered by the Camps on the Choctawhatchee, making a total of 10,100 bushels of cones to be extracted this year at the Olustee Extractory.

HIGH TREES IN JOYCE KILMER MEMORIAL FOREST

"The search for gigantic poplars may continue but the Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest in the Nantahala contains the "Grand Daddies" of all the trees left in the Appalachians.

"One poplar in this area was found to be 79" D.B.H. and 92 feet to the first limb. Pick your own log lengths and it still is a fair-sized tree. If you prefer other species, here is something to shoot at: Northern Red Oak 60" D.B.H. with 5-16 ft. logs, or Cucumber at 60" D.B.H. also with 5-16 ft. logs. Getting down to small stuff, a Silverbell 4 ft. D.B.H. and containing 5 logs.

"The area is readily reached from Robbinsville, N. C., via a Forest Service road. 'Doubting Thomases', nature lovers and timber cruisers are cordially invited to inspect the area."

-- Paul H. Gerrard, Forest Supervisor

- - - -

DEER HUNT ON THE PISGAH

The fourth public deer hunt on the Pisgah opens on November 1 and continues through December 10 for the purpose of removing surplus stock from the area. The hunt will be held over the entire 100,000-acre Preserve. 2,500 hunters will be allowed to participate. Eligible to apply for the hunt are U. S. citizens over twenty-one, except Forest Service employees. Application blanks and complete instructions regarding the hunt may be secured from the Forest Supervisor, Pisgah National Forest, Arcade Building, Asheville, N. C. The closing date of applications is October 24.

- - - -

CHEROKEE TO HOLD BOAR HUNT

The second wild boar hunt has been announced for October 25 to November 6 on the Cherokee. According to plans recently approved by the Regional Forester and the Tennessee State Director for Fish and Game, 108 hunters will be granted the privilege of participating in the hunt. These men will hunt in four groups of 27 each, three days being the maximum time allowed for the taking of one wild hog of either sex.

Prof. LeRoy C. Stogeman, Biologist, recently completed his summer's study of these animals. His illustrated report is in process of typing and promises to furnish some very interesting, as well as informative, reading. The study as to fall and winter habits will be carried on by Game Assistant Manges with the assistance of Ranger Duncan and his staff of Game Wardens. Four wild hogs are being held in captivity at the Pheasant Field Guard Station for observation.

AMERICAN PULPWOOD ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

Pulpwood groups of the American Pulpwood Association will hold meetings to report on accomplishments under the cutting rules adopted in May and June, as follows:

Group 1, Richmond, Va., November 12

Group 4, Crossett, Ark., November 18

Group 3 held a similar meeting on October 8 at Laurel, Miss.

On December 6-7, all four groups will meet in Jacksonville to discuss the correlation of forest practice rules for the South as a whole.

Group 2 has not yet announced plans for a meeting prior to the Jacksonville session.

- - - -

MISSISSIPPI CHALLENGES FLORIDA

In the August 1937 issue of the Dixie Ranger, under Florida Forest News, page 13, Mr. Albert states that the Apalachicola lays claim to the thriftiest longleaf pine sapling as yet recorded.

The DeSoto National Forest can beat that. A longleaf pine sapling growing near the W. W. Ashe Nursery, Brooklyn, Mississippi, has produced five healthy mature cones. This tree was six feet tall at the beginning of this growing season, and it is now 10 feet and 6 inches tall.

-- R. M. Conarro, Forest Supervisor

- - - -

REGIONAL OFFICE TENNIS CLUB

On September 23, 1937 the Regional Office Tennis Club was formally organized for the purpose of promoting tennis activities in the Regional Office and to sponsor club tournaments and team matches with other clubs. The following officers were elected and installed:

President - H. C. Cain

Secretary - R. G. Florance

Treasurer - M. E. Gay

A doubles tournament is now in progress under the sponsorship of the club and Crawford and Kieny are scheduled to meet Branch and Florance in the finals.

The first team match was played by the Regional Office team on September 19, 1937 against the Nantahala Tennis Club at Franklin, N. C. A return match was played in Atlanta on September 26, 1937. On each occasion the visitors were victorious by the team score of four matches to three.

-- R. G. Florance, Regional Office

FOREST NEWS

CHEROKEE

A float entered in the unique two-mile Church-of-God parade at Cleveland, Tennessee won the first prize for the Cherokee National Forest on September 11. The Forest exhibit was a truck advertising the Cherokee National Forest. On either side of the truck was a 6 ft. by 16 ft. map of the State of Tennessee, showing the location of the Forest to Cleveland, Knoxville and Chattanooga. At one end large painted figures that were easily read by onlookers told the acreage of the Forest, amounts of timber sold annually, and the income derived. On the float, which carried a sylvan decoration, was an attractive exhibit showing the wild life of the Forest, including stuffed wild boars and deer, and many coon, bear, wildcat and deer hides.

This parade was the culmination of a ten-day convention of members of this church from all over the nation, and the parade contained hundreds of marchers and many floats.

One of the recreational areas on the Watauga was the scene of the 1937 annual reunion of the Tennessee Division of Spanish-American War Veterans, which was held on September 5. 3,800 people were accommodated in the area, which was taxed to capacity. This same camp and picnic ground had a weekly attendance of 500 people all summer. The 1938 reunion will be held at the beautifully developed Backbone Rock recreational area on the Watauga.

-- P.F.W. Prater, Forest Supervisor

- - - - -

OZARK

On September 9, 57 cars and approximately 270 people were conducted on a show-me tour of the Sylamore District of the Ozark National Forest. These people were from the towns of Mountain View, Calico Rock, and Norfork, mainly, with some few from the more outlying towns of Cotter and Mountain Home. It was striking to note that, while these people live in a forested region and are used to the woods, they showed a high degree of interest and appreciation of the conservation efforts and improvements which have been made by the Ozark National Forest in that district. It is not believed that such an interest could have been aroused three or four years ago, and this is one of the tangible evidences of the growth of an interest in forestry within the State.

On July 13 and 14, the Home Demonstration Agent for Johnson County used the unoccupied Fort Douglas Camp for her 4-H Club, with good results. This camp is being used a great deal by community clubs, school classes, Boy Scouts, through the cooperation of District Ranger Barrett.

-- H. R. Koon, Forest Supervisor

ALABAMA

Four hundred bushels of slash pine cones were recently transported to the Ashe Nursery, Brooklyn, Mississippi, from the Conecuh National Forest, which is three hundred bushels over the Conecuh quota. Three thousand bushels of longleaf cones have also been collected as of September 23.

The Oakmulgee District started a series of radio broadcasts on September 25 over Station WHBB, Selma, Alabama, which is to be presented for eight consecutive weeks. Its object is to make the public forest-conscious and to aid in fire prevention.

The Oakmulgee District is presenting a framed picture of James Montgomery Flagg's poster to the schools throughout the District, and in conjunction with this is starting an essay contest on "Why I Should Protect the Forest".

During the month of September two meetings were held on the Black Warrior National Forest, at Camps F-3 and F-5, to consider methods of contacting the local residents for the purpose of preventing forest fires. All the personnel seemed interested and it is believed that, although the Black Warrior has a rather small fire load in an average year, the number of fires will be considerably reduced. It is believed that the increased knowledge of the personnel in making casual contacts will increase the good will of local residents toward the Forest Service.

-- Frank W. Rasor, Forest Supervisor

- - - -

PERSONNEL CHANGES

Jr. Forester Max T. Brown, formerly on the Leesville District of the Kisatchie, has been transferred to the Mena Ranger District of the Ouachita.

Marion Lamb, who was Improvement Superintendent on the Texas Forests, has been transferred to the Regional Office on the staff in the Division of Engineering.

Mrs. Florence Cameron has left the Regional Office to accept a position with the Division of Land Purchase in the Washington Office.

Bruce Whitlock has been transferred from the Chattahoochee to the Texas Forests vice Marion Lamb.

Jr. Forester Philip A. Newton, who was on the Apalachicola District of the Florida Forests, was recently assigned to a regular position on the Ouachita.

Effective August 17, Mr. Lindsay W. Brown succeeded Jerry O. Huxford, Jr. as Naval Stores Field Inspector at Brooksville, Florida.

- - - -

THE LOOKOUT

Regional Forester Kircher with Messrs. Evans and Yensco spent several days in Washington early in September attending a meeting on the Naval Stores Conservation program for 1938.

Mr. Stowell Smith, S & PF, Washington, is spending about two weeks in the Region and is now with Mr. Strauss in South Carolina.

W. R. Mattoon, S & PS, Washington, spent October 7 in the Regional Office, after having been on a field trip in the Region since September 7.

The Regional Office was happy to have Dana Parkinson, Chief of the Division of Information and Education, as a recent visitor. Mr. Parkinson's interest in our educational work and his suggestions aimed at furthering Forest Service objectives are inspirational. He has the faculty of making one feel that his work is more than just a job.

Among other recent visitors to the Regional Office were Messrs. Fred Morrell, Roy S. Richardson, Fred J. Murray and W. A. DuPuy of the Washington Office; Dr. Nelson of the Appalachian Station; State Foresters H. A. Smith of South Carolina and C. A. Gillett from Arkansas; and Supervisors Frank A. Albert, H. M. Sears, P.F.W. Prater, and Wm. H. Fischer.

Supervisor Gerrard of the Nantahala reports that twenty thousand four to eight inch brook trout have been planted in the streams within the Standing Indian Area, and 12,000 four to six inch rainbow trout and 4,500 brook trout have been planted in the Fires Creek Area.

Messrs. Loveridge and Fitzwater of the Chief's Office are scheduled to spend about six weeks in the Region, commencing October 18.

- - - -

Most of you football fans will probably get a "kick" out of the following:

A small boy was trudging along dejectedly in the grip of a policeman. In his arms he carried a football. There had been a broken window and trampled flower beds.

A group of his pals stood on a street corner. He decided to keep a stiff upper lip while passing them.

"What did ye do, Fred?" asked his pals.

"Oh, nuthin," he replied, casually. "They've asked me to play for the Police Department."

-- Louisiana Drainage News